

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 and 5-37 are currently pending, Claims 1, 10-12, 23, and 24 having been amended, and Claims 26-37 having been added by the present amendment. The changes and additions to the claims do not add new matter and are supported by the originally filed claims and specification, for example, on page 18, lines 22 through page 19, line 5 and FIG. 4.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for conducting an interview with Applicants' Representatives, Sameer Gokhale and Monica S. Ullagaddi, on February 23, 2011. During the interview, the differences between the claims and the applied art were discussed. Further, clarifying claim amendments were also discussed. In addition, the Examiner indicated that the amended claims appear to overcome the applied art. Arguments and claims similar to those presented during the interview are presented herewith for formal consideration.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 11 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter; Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-20, and 23-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Imazu (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0087892) in view of Aboulhosn et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0068524, hereafter "Aboulhosn") and further in view of Brickell et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0115142, hereafter "Brickell"); Claims 9 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Imazu in view of Aboulhosn and Brickell as applied to claims 1 and 13 above, and further in view of Oho et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0184515, hereafter "Oho"); and Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Imazu in view of Aboulhosn and Brickell as applied to claim 14 above, and further in view of Bradee (U.S.

Pub. No. 2002/0095571) and Satyavolu et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0191964, hereafter “Satyavolu”).

With regard to the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejection of Claims 11 and 24, Applicants’ Claims 11 and 24 are amended to recite, *inter alia*, “a non-transitory computer readable storage medium.” In this regard, Claims 11 and 24 have been amended to comply with Director Kappos’ memo of January 27, 2010, which stated that the subject matter eligibility of a computer readable medium may be secured by excluding signal based embodiments described in the specification. To this end, Applicants have adopted the language “non-transitory”, as suggested in the memo, to address U.S. Patent and Trademark Office formalities only. More specifically, it is noted that the recitation of “non-transitory” is a limitation of the medium itself (*i.e.*, tangible, not a signal) as opposed to a limitation on data storage persistency (*e.g.*, RAM vs. ROM). Accordingly, Claims 11 and 24 are submitted to be statutory under 35 U.S.C. §101. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejection of Claims 11 and 24 is respectfully requested.

With respect to the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), Applicants respectfully submit that the herein presented amendments to Claim 1 overcome this ground of rejection. Amended Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*,

transmitting, from a service utilizing apparatus, registration information to a management apparatus according to an external input, the registration information including a first user identification information for use in utilizing a service in the service utilizing apparatus together with a first password corresponding to the first user identification information, wherein the management apparatus stores second user identification information for at least a second apparatus, and the first user identification information is set to be different than the second user identification information;

subsequently transmitting, from the service utilizing apparatus, a first apparatus name of the service utilizing apparatus to the management apparatus, the first apparatus name being entered by a user of the service utilizing

apparatus and is selected independently of any apparatus names entered for the second apparatus such that the first apparatus name is allowed to be the same as an apparatus name entered for the second apparatus;

transmitting, from the service utilizing apparatus to the management apparatus, disclosure setting information indicating whether or not the existence of the service utilizing apparatus registered in the management apparatus is to be disclosed to other users;

receiving, at the service utilizing apparatus, registration completion information transmitted from the management apparatus after completing registration with the first user identification information, the first password, and the first apparatus name entered by the user of the service utilizing apparatus; and

managing the service utilizing apparatus by the management apparatus.

Turning now to the references, Applicants respectfully submit that Imazu discloses a registration identifier, a login identifier, and a device identifier. As discussed in the previously filed Response, the registration identifier is not determined by a user 10, but is randomly generated by an authenticator 100 and identifies the user 10 and/or communication device. *See, e.g.*, paragraphs [0014], [0051] and [0071] of Imazu. The login identifier is submitted to be a device identifier that the communication device automatically sends for particularly identifying the communication device. In Imazu, the device identifier is assigned individually even among the same models, and thus identifies both the model and the user who uses the model. *See, e.g.*, paragraph [0016] of Imazu. Imazu further discloses that the login identifier is selected by the authenticator 100. Imazu does not disclose that any of the registration identifier, the login identifier, and the device identifier are of a user's own choosing and are entered by the user. Accordingly, Imazu fails to disclose or render obvious that the first apparatus name is entered by a user of the service utilizing apparatus. Therefore, Imazu also fails to disclose or render obvious "receiving, at the service utilizing apparatus,

registration completion information transmitted from the management apparatus after completing registration with the first user identification information, the first password, ***and the first apparatus name entered by the user of the service utilizing apparatus,***” as recited in Applicants’ independent Claim 1.

The Examiner acknowledges that Imazu fails to disclose or render obvious the transmitting elements of Applicants’ Claim 1, but relies on Aboulhosn and Brickell to cure these deficiencies. In this regard, Brickell is submitted to disclose an example in which a doctor is registered using his name, address, and employment number. A registration server 206 provides him with a private password. The doctor further registers a sample fingerprint, a private-public key pair associated with a handheld computing device, and retinal scan data to enter a research lab. The registration server 206 stores data associated with these authentication methods in a portfolio 210 associated with the doctor. However, none of the above-noted authentication data described in Brickell (e.g., a fingerprint, a private-public key pair, and retinal scan data) is chosen by the doctor. Further, Brickell does not disclose that the above-noted authentication data is chosen or obtained such that it is allowed to be the same as authentication data for another user. On the contrary, fingerprints, private-public key pairs, and retinal scan data are necessary unique to each user, and cannot overlap. Accordingly, Brickell does not disclose or render obvious that “the first apparatus name is entered by a user of the service utilizing apparatus and is selected independently of any apparatus names entered for the second apparatus such that the first apparatus name is allowed to be the same as an apparatus name entered for the second apparatus,” as specified in Applicants’ independent Claim 1.

Applicants submit that Aboulhosn also fails to cure the deficiencies noted above with respect to Imazu (and Brickell). The cited portions of Aboulhosn are submitted to disclose that a file sharing system may have a server (e.g., an authorization server) that controls

whether a member is currently online or offline. As previously discussed, the cited portion of Aboulhosn discloses that a group owner sends an invitation message and if the invitation is accepted, the group owner adds the new member to its list of members for that group. *See, e.g.,* paragraph [0016] of Aboulhosn. However, the cited portion of Aboulhosn does not disclose that a user provides a setting to management apparatus which indicates whether ***the existence of a device owned by the user is to be disclosed to other users***. Rather, Aboulhosn merely describes a new member joining a group which has existing members. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Aboulhosn fails to disclose or render obvious “transmitting, to the management apparatus, disclosure setting information indicating whether or not the first apparatus names of the service utilizing apparatuses registered in the management apparatus are to be published to the management apparatus,” as recited in Claim 1.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that modifying Imazu with the teachings of Aboulhosn would destroy the teachings of Imazu insofar as Imazu discloses that both the login identifier and the registration identifier are imbedded in a way so as to be invisible or hidden from a person who receives a corresponding screen. That is, Applicants respectfully submit that Imazu discloses hiding information related to a connected user. *See, e.g.,* paragraph [0060] and [0067]. In contrast, Aboulhosn discloses sharing group membership information with other members of a group.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of Imazu, Aboulhosn, and Brickell set forth by the Examiner fails to disclose or render obvious “subsequently transmitting, from the service utilizing apparatus, a first apparatus name of the service utilizing apparatus to the management apparatus, ***the first apparatus name being entered by a user of the service utilizing apparatus and is selected independently of any apparatus names entered for the second apparatus such that the first apparatus name is allowed to be the same as an apparatus name entered for the second apparatus***,” and “transmitting, from

the service utilizing apparatus to the management apparatus, disclosure setting information indicating whether or not the existence of the service utilizing apparatus registered in the management apparatus is to be disclosed to other users,” as defined by amended Claim 1. Moreover, the combination of Imazu, Aboulhosn, and Brickell set forth by the Examiner fails to disclose or render obvious “receiving, at the service utilizing apparatus, registration completion information transmitted from the management apparatus after completing registration with the first user identification information, the first password, and the first apparatus name entered by the user of the service utilizing apparatus,” as recited in amended Claim 1.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguishes over Imazu, Aboulhosn, and Brickell either alone or in proper combination.

Oho, Bradee, and Satyavolu have been considered but fail to remedy the deficiencies of Imazu, Aboulhosn, and Brickell with regard to amended Claim 1. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguishes over Imazu, Aboulhosn, Brickell, Oho, Bradee, and Satyavolu, either alone or in proper combination.

Amended independent Claims 10-12, 23 and 24 recite features similar to those of amended Claim 1 discussed above. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claims 10-12, 23 and 24 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguish over Imazu, Aboulhosn, Brickell, Oho, Bradee, and Satyavolu, either alone or in proper combination.

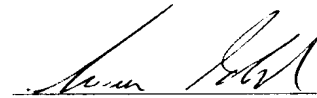
The present amendment also sets forth new Claims 26-37 for examination on the merits. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that these more detailed features are not disclosed or rendered obvious by Imazu, Aboulhosn, Brickell, Oho, Bradee,

and Satyavolu, either alone or in proper combination. Applicants respectfully requested an indication of allowance with respect to new Claims 26-37 at least for depending from Claims 1, 10-12, 23, and 24, which Applicants submit have been shown to be allowable.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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